

**GOVERNOR'S MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION**  
**Tuesday, July 10, 2007, at 10 a.m.**  
**Governor's 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007**

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

**OPENING REMARKS**

Co-Chair Lisa Atkins called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**ROLL CALL & ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

**Governor's Military Affairs Commission**

Commissioners Present:

- Lisa Atkins, Co-Chair, West Valley
- Tom Finnegan, Co-Chair, Ft. Huachuca 50
- Thomas Browning, Brig. Gen., USAF (Ret.)
- Dr. William D. Carrell, Jr., Tucson
- Mayor James Cavanaugh, City of Goodyear
- Michael Francis, West Valley Community Action Coalition
- Robert Johnston, Lt. Gen., USMC (Ret.) ,Tucson
- Representative John Nelson, Arizona House of Representatives
- Monsignor Richard O'Keeffe, Yuma
- Mayor Robert Strain, City of Sierra Vista
- Supervisor Lenore Stuart, Yuma County

Commissioners Absent:

- Supervisor Sandie Smith, Pinal County (telephone problem)
- Mayor Robert Walkup, City of Tucson (telephone problem)
- Senator Thayer Verschoor, Senate Appointee
- Priscilla Storm, Diamond Ventures, Tucson

**Ex-Officio Members and Staff Present:**

- Michael Werner, U.S. Dept of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management
- Anna Chavez, Military Policy Advisor to the Governor
- Deb Sydenham, Arizona Department of Commerce
- Donald Baier, Assistant Attorney General
- Tory Anderson on behalf of Sam Wercinski, Commissioner for the Dept. of Real Estate
- Sherri Lee, Department of Commerce
- June Sinclair, Department of Commerce
- Gabe Forsberg, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

The combined GMAC & AMAC Meeting Minutes for November 30, 2006 were approved as written and the Commissioners were invited to provide brief reports for their respective areas.

Rep. Nelson indicated that \$250,000 had been appropriated for Alan Maguire to conduct an economic impact study of the military in Arizona. With the economic impact to Arizona on the new Maguire report, he felt that it is possible to request additional funding for land acquisition from the Legislature at the next session. He needs facts and figures to prove the need. The new Maguire study will be discussed at the September 2007 agenda.

Michael Francis would like an update from the US Army Corps of Engineers on the status of the land exchange at the September meeting.

Co-chair Finnegan wanted to encourage military installations to follow Ft. Huachuca's lead. On 2/22, Ft. Huachuca Day was held and various demonstrations were set up on the lawn of the state Capitol. The presenters offered tours to the Legislators who later came to the military installation to learn how Arizona benefits from its mission.

Co-chair Finnegan offered to collect information through the Commanders' Summit to identify issues of importance to families of deployed troops. His intent is to put together a list of best practices for state agencies to minimize difficulties for military families. Co-chair Finnegan intends to present a list of recommendations at the September meeting. The Office of the Secretary of Defense invited Co-chair Finnegan to go to Orlando to participate in the Sustaining Military Readiness Conference (30 July- 3 Aug). One of the major tracks of the conference is about encroachment and the environmental issues of importance to military installations. Heather Garbarino, Dept. of Commerce, and Matt Walsh, Ft. Huachuca, will also be attending the conference in Orlando.

### **Economic Impact of Yuma Proving Ground (YPG)**

Lt. Col. Gail Washington, Commander with the Yuma Test Center, gave a PowerPoint presentation. The equipment testing being done there helps save the lives of military service personnel in all branches of service. The economic impact of the military to the Yuma area is \$340 million dollars. In addition to military testing, Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) also provides service in partnership with the private sector.

Gen. Browning asked about the long-term financial impact of General Motors, Raytheon, and other corporations partnering with YPG. Private corporations could also benefit, if it is important to them to conduct testing in a location that is free of radio and electronic interference. Lt. Col. Washington will forward contact information so Commissioners can help promote YPG on an individual basis. She was also asked to keep the Commission apprised of expansion plans for YPG as they develop.

### **Military Facility Task Force Recommendations Assigned to the GMAC - Discussion and Possible Action**

Co-chair Finnegan presented a PowerPoint presentation recapping the recommendations approved by the Governor in 2004. Recommendation status appears below:

Rec #1 – Dept. of Commerce will revise its 2004 publication upon obtaining the results of the Alan Maguire study. Deb Sydenham will provide a status report at the September agenda and identify a target date to publish the revision.

Rec #2 – Complete

Rec #3 – Complete

Rec #4 – Complete. Anna Chavez offered to invite Brian de Vallance to the September meeting to brief the Commission on activities in Washington, D.C.  
Rec #5 – Was defeated but may need to be resurrected in the 2007 Legislative session.  
Rec #6 – Complete  
Rec #7 – Ongoing  
Rec #8 – Complete  
Rec #9 – Ongoing JLUS  
Rec #10 - Ongoing  
Rec #11 – The Commission was appointed but inactive. Gen. Browning felt that airspace studies were critical, but there was no funding provided. US Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters specifically asked about air space when she was recently in town. Anna Chavez will ask her the status of funding availability and ask her if she would be willing to meet with some of the Commissioners.  
Rec#12 – Complete  
Rec#13 – Legislation introduced in 2007 may need to be re-introduced, especially to clarify the authority of the County's authority to protect Aux 1.  
Rec#14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, and 25 – HB 2140 (2004 laws chapter 111) dealt with many of the legislative recommendations.  
Rec #18 – Ongoing, JLUS process  
Rec #22 – Ongoing, JLUS process  
Rec #23 – Ongoing, JLUS process  
Rec #24 – County authority may need to be better defined.  
Rec #26 –Ongoing. This issue needs to be left open so that federal assets could be used to protect federal assets.

*Soft Spots* –Mayor Cavanaugh began working on soft spots as a means of identifying opportunities for improvement for military installations. He then began working with Kevin O'Berry, Arizona Commanders' Summit, on what has also been called the Redlight-Greenlight process. This exercise is essential to identifying legislative issues. Co-chair Finnegan hopes to have major issues identified by the September meeting.

Jim Uken works for Gen. Tom Jones, Commander of Luke AFB, and is actively involved with the Arizona Commanders' Summit. On July 17, each military installation will present their strategic issues and assess them as red, green or yellow. They will also project the color rating for these issues in the future. When the Summit consolidates their issues, they can identify specific installation-critical issues and also common "soft spots" that may require legislative change.

Co-chair Atkins thanked Mayor Cavanaugh for framing this critically important exercise and applauded the Arizona Commanders' Summit for its willingness to consolidate issues statewide.

### **"America Supports You Freedom Walk" scheduled for 9/11**

Anna Chavez introduced a program she learned about from Allison Barber who is interested in organizing a walk on September 11. The purpose of the Freedom Walk is to raise awareness about the troops while they are in harm's way. There are two walks at this time being organized in St. John's and Flagstaff and there may also be an event planned for Tucson. Organizing a major event in 60 days seemed too ambitious, but Co-chair Atkins suggested that the Tucson Commissioners could investigate the program in

their own communities. She also asked Ms. Chavez to inform Ms. Barber that the event is now on the radar and the Commission supports its yearly events.

### **Arizona Legislative Update**

Co-chair Atkins thanked Rep. Nelson for his support of the continuing funding for the Military Installation Fund. It adjourned *sine die* on June 20 and she presented the Commissioners with a handout of key legislation.

### **Arizona Military Regional Compatibility Project Update**

Deb Sydenham said that Arizona is unique in the way it is handling property restrictions; only Oregon has a similar system. The Arizona Planning Association has been focusing on where there may be leeway in the way land is used. Local governments have voluntarily partnered with Silverbell to deal with land use compatibility.

Heather Garbarino, Dept. of Commerce, reported that the 6<sup>th</sup> installation is now available on the website – the Ft. Huachuca Joint Land Use Study. This was the last of the studies funded by the Department of Defense. There were several issues brought to light by the study (such as electromagnetic interference that may pose a problem for Ft. Huachuca, county and city maps need to be revised, etc.). If any additional studies would be required, grants would need to be written to fund those efforts.

### **Association of Defense Communities - formerly NAID**

Tom Hessler, formerly with the Governor's Military Affairs Commission, presented a PowerPoint presentation. It is a diverse organization originally focused on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), but it now deals with all aspects of military issues. Because ADC does not lobby, both private sector and government entities can comfortably work together on issues. Mr. Hessler had a list of 5 recommendations and offered his support to any and all military installations in Arizona.

A motion was made to recommend that Arizona become a member of the ADC, which was unanimously supported. Anna Chavez will inform Governor Napolitano of the Commissioners' recommendation and work on the implementation details.

### **Recognition of Service for Commissioner Tom Hessler**

Anna Chavez made a public presentation to Tom Hessler for his seminal work on the Commission and its predecessor, the Military Task Force. The Governor had penned a letter of her personal and sincere thanks, which had been mailed to his home in Sierra Vista by the time of the meeting. Ms. Chavez presented Mr. Hessler with an autographed inaugural poster and Governor Napolitano's personal challenge coin.

### **Western Regional Partnership (WRP)**

Janice Larkin, OSD Range Sustainment Outreach Coordinator, provided a PowerPoint presentation. She wanted to put forth an idea of building a partnership in the west that is similar in concept to the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS). That mega-region includes six states in the southeast, the federal government and other stakeholders and has been working for about 16 months. SERPPAS has held 4 meetings to increase information and resource sharing, and Ms.

Larkin proposed a similar group be formed as the Western Regional Partnership. The opportunities for land use and legislative changes are increased when this type of coalition is formed.

The Department of Defense looked at the minutes of the meetings of various military-oriented organizations over the past 5 years. Three primary issues became apparent: border, threatening endangered species, and urban growth. Ms. Larkin believes that these issues can be dealt with more effectively if state borders are disregarded and a strong coalition is formed amongst various government and private entities. WRP hopes to build upon the work done by the Southwest Defense Alliance and encourage the building of even more partnerships. The mega-region being proposed includes California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, and Utah. There is currently \$1million available for start-up studies and there may be additional funds available as partnerships are formed. The Udall Institute in Tucson has agreed to participate with the Department of Defense. Additional information may be obtained from July 30 to August 4 at the annual conference in Orlando.

The proposal to build the WRP will be placed on the September agenda, allowing Commissioners time to consider Ms. Larkin's proposal.

#### **Future Meeting Dates and Locations (Lisa Atkins and Tom Finnegan)**

- Thursday, September 27, 2007
- Thursday, November 29, 2007

#### **Call to the Public**

Anne Gomez spoke about flight pattern issues with Davis-Monthan AFB and suggested that an auxiliary training field could be built (like Luke AFB and Oceana Naval Base). She distributed copies of her concerns.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12: 28 p.m.